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Playground Association of Atlanta

1916

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YMCA
Association
AUG 31 1916

Playground Association of Atlanta

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TEACHERS RECEIVING DIPLOMAS IN JUNE, 1916

Miss Loudie Holland
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Miss Mary Louise Whitley
Miss Lora A. Pinnell
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Miss Katherine Colley
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Miss Annie Vernoy
Mrs. Maud P. Turner
Miss Ethel Megee
Miss Mary C. Coly
Miss Ora Lyle
Miss Elva Brehm

TEACHERS RECEIVING DIPLOMAS (CONTINUED)

Miss Minnie Womack
Miss Lillie May Steavens
Miss Estelle Weaver
Miss Roberta Moran
Miss Alice Lovette
Miss Lillian Downing
Miss Amelia Stanford
Miss Helen Harlan
Miss Edwina Lazarus
Miss Louise Youngblood
Miss Lena Jones
Miss Mildred Parr
Miss Lena Feldman
Miss Elise Chosewood
Miss Versacola Ball
Miss Ruth Gresham
Miss Janie Bellingrath
Miss Susie B. Hecker
Miss Lelia Johnson
Miss Pearl Acree
Miss Maggie Shuford
Miss Sara Mellichamp
Miss Ida B. Feldman
Miss Mamie Gene Cole
Miss Clara M. Phillips
Miss Atlee Davis
Miss Virginia Haugh
Miss Annie D. Bennett
Miss Luzeika Herbig
Miss Ethel Douglas
Miss Emily May Hargrove

Colored:

Alice Cary
Eva Arnold
Willie Kelley

The first Playground Normal ever held in Atlanta was in the year of 1914 under the supervision of Mrs. Florence M. Tibbets with a class of ninety. The class of 1916 numbered one hundred and nineteen, an increase of nearly thirty in the three years. The object of this Normal is to prepare teachers for efficient work on playgrounds. These normals last ten weeks and are free to all applicants.

When directors are desired for playground work communicate with the Playground Association of Atlanta, City Hall, Atlanta, Ga.

Class of 1916.

Mr. J. O. Cochran, January 1st, 1916.

General Manager of Parks,

Atlanta, Ga.

Dear Sir:

I beg to submit herewith my report as Supervisor of Playgrounds for the season of 1915, which is as follows:

The season just closed has been one of the most successful yet experienced by the playgrounds of the City. The number of playgrounds operated consisted of eleven for white children and two for colored which were opened to the public on June 14th and closed on August 20th, having been in operation ten weeks.

A normal class was conducted during the two months previous to the opening of the playgrounds. At this class the teachers were instructed in first-aid work, how to conduct a playground and various games and dances for children of all ages. This normal class, which was started in 1914, is the first of its kind in the South. Since it was opened it has been attended by 176 teachers; 141 have taken the director's examination, the others having dropped out for various reasons.

Each ground was in charge of a director and an assistant who taught games and dances, as well as looked out for the welfare of the children.

The total attendance for 1915 was 134,481. The total attendance during 1914 was 93,089. The new reports for the directors adopted this year enabled us to keep an accurate attendance on the playgrounds, including visitors. The attendance on the grounds this year was beyond our expectation.

I wish to thank the members of the Park Commission for the interest which they took in the playground work during the past season, also Mr. Ben Lee Crew, President of the Board; Mr. J. H. Andrews, Chairman of the Playground Committee and Mr. J. O. Cochran, General Manager of Parks, for the co-operation and support which they extended to me as Supervisor of Playgrounds.

I heartily wish the playgrounds of Atlanta success which I know they will have if the members of the Park Commission and the General Manager of Parks continue to give them their support which they have so willingly done in the past. Respectfuly,

(Signed) MRS. F. M. TIBBETS,

Supervisor of Playgrounds.

Cups to be won during the playground season by team winning the greatest number of games—Volley Ball, Baseball, Croquet.

The Marathon and Folk Dance Cups to be won at the Playground Festival.

"Playgrounds have an educational, physical and moral value which mean scarcely less for the rich than for the poor."

In 1906 Atlanta had her first playground located at Fair Street School with a weekly attendance of 360. In 1915 she numbered twelve well-equipped grounds with two directors for each ground and a weekly attendance of 13,824.

"Dancing is, next to eating and drinking or feasting, the most primitive form of enjoyment."

"Dancing is one of the best expressions of pure play and the motor needs of youth. Perhaps it is the most liberal of all forms of motor education."

"Still unaccomplish'd may
the Maid be thought,
Who gracefully to dance,
was never taught."

I want a word with parents. I want to urge them as they value their children's future welfare not to shut them off from playing with other children. Social instinct is child's second nature andshould be given a chance to find expression. Therefore,children should have ample opportunity to play togetherand especially to play group games. The spirit of self-reliance, initiative, fair play and team play, all consciously and unconsciously come thru the child's play. They learn courage and self control. Play fosters the feeling of the need of co-operation to get the best out of life. Give your child's social instinct an opportunity to develop thru play, if you want him to have a fair chance of amounting to something in later life. When the playground-educated boy begins the business of life, he needs no special training in the art of human intercourse. In the playground, too, if it is under the direction of a competent director, children are assured of a mental discipline that will bring out the good qualities possessed by even the worst of boys.

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